

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 7, 10, and 20-26 are now pending. Claims 7 and 10 have been indicated to be allowed. By this amendment, claims 1-5 and 11-19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 20-26 have been added. Support for the newly added claims can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed. Specifically, support for the newly added claims can be found as follows:

Claims 20 and 21 – See original claim 10 and the specification at page 10 at lines 17-19.

Claims 22 and 25 – See original claim 3 and the specification at page 10, lines 20-22.

Claim 23 – See original claim 4 and the specification at page 10, lines 20-22.

Claims 24 and 26 – See original claim 5 and the specification at page 10, line 22 to page 11, line 2.

Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Muni et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,375,629). See Office Action at 2.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 1, 2, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Abrams et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,341,818). See Office Action at 3.

While Applicants respectfully disagree with these rejections, Applicants submit that the rejections are now moot. Claims 1-5 have been canceled by this amendment without prejudice or disclaimer.

III. Allowable Claims

The Examiner has indicated that claims 7 and 10 are allowed. Office Action at 3.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that the claims are allowed.

New claims 20-26 ultimately depend from claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 20-26 also contain allowable subject matter and respectfully request the Examiner's allowance of all the pending claims.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of pending claims 7, 10 and 20-26.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 23, 2005

By: Michele C. Bosch
Michele C. Bosch
Reg. No. 40,524